

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O: GTWOHIE

APPROVED BY S/S-O: GTWOHIE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 199969

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 7607 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN
SEP 10TH.

QUOTE:

S E C R E T TEHRAN 7607

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECDEF AND USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, US

SUBJ: SHAH ON CO-PRODUCTION OF DEFENSE SYSTEMS

REF: TEHRAN 6200

1. IN AUDIENCE SEPTEMBER 10, SHAH EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR KEEN
DISAPPOINTMENT IN LACK OF USG RESPONSE TO IRANIAN REQUESTS TO CO-
PRODUCE WEAPONS SYSTEMS. WITH REFERENCE TO PROPOSAL FOR ASSEMBLY
OF MAVERICK MISSILES WHICH WAS RECENTLY PRESENTED BY HUGHES, SHAH
SAID IRAN'S PARTICIPATION INVOLVED NOTHING MUCH MORE THAN
"PUTTING A FEW SCREWS IN PLACE". HE TERMED THE PROPOSAL "ALMOST
INSULTING". SHAH SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED CO-PRODUCTION WITH PRESIDENT

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NIXON, SECRETARY KISSINGER AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. HE WAS SUR-

PREISED THAT DURING THE INTERVENING MONTHS HE HAD NOT A RESPONSE FROM THE USG. HE NOTED SPECIFICALLY THAT HE HAD HEARD NOTHING ON TOW OR DRAGON CO-PRODUCTION.

2. IN THIS CONNECTION SHAH SAID GOI WAS HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF GERMAN FIRM, BOLKOW, WHO WAS PROPOSING MANUFACTURE OF MILAN AND HOT MISSILES IN IRAN. WE HAD HEARD FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS WERE TAKING PLACE.

3. SHAH AND IRANINA MILITARY LEADERS HAVE CLEAR PREFERENCE FOR CO-PRODUCTION OF US WEAPONS SYSTEMS, BUT WE ARE TESTING THEIR LOYALTY TO OUR PRODUCTS BY OUR CONTINUING DELAY IN RESPONDING TO SPECIFIC IRANIAN REQUESTS. WE EARNESTLY HOPE THAT WE WILL HAVE SOMETHING CONCRETE AND POSITIVE TO SAY TO THE GOI ON THIS ISSUE VERY SOON.

HELMS

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ARMS PRODUCTION, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE199969
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: GTWOHIE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740253-0907
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740951/aaaabrdu.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: TEHRAN 6200
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHAH ON CO-PRODUCTION OF DEFENSE SYSTEMS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, IR, US, GE
To: USCINCEUR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005